

**Amendments to the Specification:**

9/5/00 SF  
Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 9, line 12 with the following amended paragraph:

~~FIG. 7A~~ FIGS. 7A-1 and 7A-2 illustrate illustrates an example of a trade process flow diagram for the current environment used in one embodiment of the present invention.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 9, line 14 with the following amended paragraph:

~~FIG. 7B illustrates~~ FIGS. 7B-1 and 7B-2 illustrate an example of a trade process flow diagram for the T+1 environment used in one embodiment of the present invention.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 9, line 16 with the following amended paragraph:

~~FIG. 7C illustrates~~ FIGS. 7C-1 and 7C-2 illustrate an example of a trade process flow diagram for the T+0 environment used in one embodiment of the present invention.

Please delete previous abstract at page 40 and add the following new abstract:

A method and system for assessing the ability of a securities processing system to apply straight through processing to securities transactions includes identifying one or more assessment issues in an issue and resolution log and capturing process and technology performance information for the securities processing system. The method also includes analyzing the process and technology performance information with respect to the one or more assessment issues and capturing information regarding the ability of at least one system external to the securities processing system to apply straight through processing to securities transactions. The method also includes formulating at least one recommendation, prioritizing the at least one recommendation, and developing an implementation plan.